

2006 TC/OBC KIDVID CONTEST

Rules of the Contest

The Foreign Service Youth Foundation and the Overseas Briefing Center are sponsoring the Eleventh Annual Worldwide KIDVID Contest for production of a video that depicts life for Foreign Service youth at your post. There are cash prizes for the top three winners. In addition, they are invited to the Annual Foreign Service Youth Award Ceremony held in the summer. This contest is open to ages 10-18.

Foreign Service children and their parents come to the OBC to research their assignments and they want to see what life will be like for them at post. Housing, schooling, recreational facilities, community life, and what the city looks like are most important. We want the viewpoint of the younger members of the Foreign Service Community. Following are some basic guidelines for suitable topics; contest rules can be disseminated directly to potential contestants.

What would be of most interest to other children and teens that have been assigned to your post? Examples should include:

CITY

- 1) Typical points of entry for new arrivals
- 2) Major roads or sights from the airport
- 3) View of the city from a high point
- 4) Local neighborhoods and shopping areas that you use
- 5) Typical landscape, different animals (if applicable)

HOUSING

- 1) View of typical bedroom for different age groups
- 2) Backyard or play areas for kids
- 3) Additional exterior and interior housing views

SCHOOL

- 1) View of the school buildings, playgrounds, and sports fields
- 2) Classrooms, library, computer room, chemistry lab or other room of particular interest
- 3) School activities in progress (if at all possible), including students and teachers
- 4) Special equipment in use

SHOPPING

- 1) Where does your family buy groceries every week? Are there good places to shop for clothes?
- 2) Favorite shopping areas where you go with your family or can go by yourself

COMMUNITY LIFE

What young children and teens do in their free time is very interesting to new people moving to your post.

- 1) What kind of recreational activities do you have at your post? (i.e. pool, American Club, beaches, horseback riding, etc.)
- 2) How do you celebrate American holidays there?
- 3) What are the favorite restaurants in the city? Do you have fast food restaurants like those in the US?
4. What are the biggest tourist attractions at your post?

CONTEST RULES FOR VIDEO PRODUCTION

1. Eligibility: family members (ages 10-18) of USG direct-hire and contract employees who are assigned to the US Mission.
2. Contest procedures: It is suggested that the Administrative Officer or Community Liaison Office Coordinator take responsibility for the advertisement of the contest at post. The contest rules should be announced, explained and made available in written form to anyone who wishes to enter the contest.
3. All posts are welcome to submit nominations. Posts with previous winners can enter again. Boarding school students spending the holidays with parents at post are welcome to participate in the contest.
4. Entry must be submitted in a VHS, Mini-DV, or DVD format that is compatible with US standards.
5. Before videotaping, be aware of any local restrictions on using a video camera in public. Americans who are videotaped need to be informed of the purpose of the video (see paragraph 13).
6. Entries will be judged on the basis of visual presentation, audio clarity and narration, length of video, and thorough coverage of content. See examples above.
7. Music, graphics, and special effects may be used but are not required. We are not looking for professional quality productions; good home video quality is perfectly acceptable. Technical quality is not as important as content. A good product is one that gives a clear portrayal of a student's life at post.
8. Ideal video length is between 15 and 30 minutes.
9. We ask for minimal assistance from adults in the video production.
10. Multiple entries from different students at a post may be submitted to the contest.
11. Group submissions are acceptable, but group winners will have their prize money divided.
12. The FSYF awards cash prizes to the top three winners.
13. All submissions become property of OBC and will not be returned to contestants. The videos will be kept in the OBC and other Foreign Service reference libraries, as required, for use by those students and family members who will be moving to the post. As OBC property, these videos may also be made available to the public.
14. Submission must be accompanied by the following printed information from each student who participated in the production of the video:

Name
Parent Agency
Pouch Address
Telephone Number
Grade and Age
City and Country

15. Contestants must acknowledge that they have read and understand the contest rules and uses to which the video may be put.

16. Send contest submissions to the following address:

KIDVID Contest
Overseas Briefing Center
Room E2126
Shultz Center
Department of State
Washington, DC 20522-4201

17. Contest deadline: Submissions must be received in the Overseas Briefing Center by April 14, 2006. Contest winners will be announced by the end of May.

Please make this contest widely known at your post to maximize the opportunity to the young people of your community. Questions regarding the contest rules or guidelines can be directed by Department e-mail or by Internet johnstonm5@state.gov, phone, (703-302-7277), or fax (703-302-7452), to Maureen Johnston at the Overseas Briefing Center.